

I am educated in audio and broadcast engineering. I work in the industry as a live-sound engineer. I also attempt to stay informed as a politically active citizen.

Local programming is a critical part of your prime directive: "the public interest and convenience."

The public interest is best served by local control of broadcast content. If you allow total corporate control of radio networks, how is that different than state operated and controlled content? Unless we put some editorial controls on the current flood of propaganda from corporate radio, our democracy will cease to exist.

Factual news and public affairs are vital to our form of governance.

How can payola exist when the same company owns the station, the recording copyrights, the artist, and much of the tour industry? History has shown that centralized control and monopolistic economics do not serve the public interest.

Perhaps record companies should be forced to give equal payment to the people. After all, we still own the airwaves.

I find that these days my interests are only served by independent low-power stations and NPR affiliates.

In the vast sea of commercial stations there is no news, there is propaganda, there is no good music, there are carbon copies of last year's hits. In short, there is no public service at all.

Thank you for listening.